

NORTH FLORIDA BONSAI CLUB

January 2018

NFBC Officers

Josh Brown	President
Open	VicePresident
Bruce Washington	Treasurer
Ron Price	Secretary

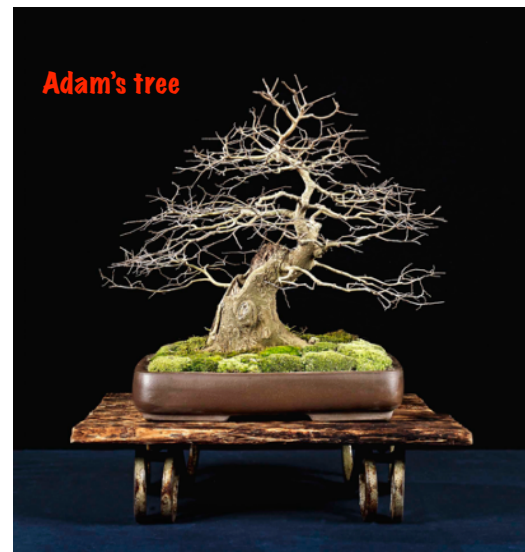
January News

- We have soil! If you need soil contact Mike bettsmike@hotmail.com, and please return your empty buckets.
- Our **meeting night is Monday January 8**. 7:00 PM Bring a tree for critique. Our guest artist is Adam Lavigne..He is president of the Central Florida Bonsai Club, 2nd VP of BSF, Publications Chair and Blog Coordinator, on the board of the American Bonsai Society. Also, Adam publishes Adam's Art and Bonsai Blog.

Meeting Agenda

Special Guest Artist – Adam Lavigne (Demo & Tree Critique)

2017 Winter Silhouette Show
North Carolina



...from Josh Brown

Membership List

The 2018 membership fee is due to BSF by January 15th, 2018. I will be sending a final list soon so please confirm your dues are current. I have the following members listed as paid for 2018.

Bal Aguila	Mike Bentzien	Josh Brown
Ronald E. Brown	Josh Collins	Gary Hricko
Linda Kandetski	Carl Krokstedt	Dave Sanders
John Terry	Bruce Washington	Scott Campbell

If you have paid your dues but have not been updated please let Josh B. or Bruce know.

2018 Calendar

The NFBC website has been updated with the tentative 2018 calendar. We are still looking for ideas so please feel free to let one of the board members know if there is something that sounds interesting to you.

January	Special Guest Artist – Adam Lavigne (Demo & Tree Critique)
February	Elm Forest Planting – Club hands-on event, you may get dirty Cypress & Azalea collecting – To be Scheduled
March	Japanese Maples – Growing them in Jacksonville by Bob Woodard Special Trip to Bob's Garden – To be Scheduled
April	Help with Seasonal Work - topic(s) TBD
May	Style Discussion – Exposed Root/Banyan?
June	Species Session – an in-depth focus on a TBD species

Guest artist Adam Lavigne

We have a special guest for Monday evening. Adam Lavigne will be joining us. Adam publishes a blog which is packed with useful information as well as being entertaining. If you have not read it, you should - adamaskwhy.com . He visited with us last year and every enjoyed his expertise and art. I have included a photo of his winter silhouette tree above.



Hopefully, this will be the last of our “severely” cold weather and we will not have to worry about temps below 32 degrees. For the temperate trees, this cold spell is actually a good thing. First of all it kills many of the pests. in addition, it provides chilling hours required for our plants to rest prior to the growth surge about to take place in the coming months. You can do some light pruning at this time of the year.

Time to get prepared for repotting our trees. Be sure you have things ahead of time such as soil, wire and of course pots. You can never have enough pots! For me, it is a little too early to repot. I like to wait until the buds swell or the plant is just ready to produce new shoots. This will be in about a month - depending upon the temperature. Regardless of the temperature, as the daylight increases the trees wake up. So, we need to be prepared.

Tropical trees are having a tough time of it at this time of the year. With the diminished hours of sunlight, the trees go into a holding pattern. This is actually normal for sub tropical trees which is what most of what we call tropical trees are. Yellow and / or wilting leaves are evidence of cold stress. Be careful of watering. The tree may appear to need to be watered. Upon closer examination of the soil, you may find the soil to be wet. So, don't water yet. You can remove the yellow leaves and discard. Another thing to be mindful of is to not pack trees too closely together. The trees need some “breathing room”. If they are packed tightly, you run the risk of die back - as air an light can not get to all parts of the plant. The result is a lost of the twigs and branch ramification that you worked so had to produce in the growing season.

Also keep benches in the greenhouse free of debris. This becomes a perfect hiding place for insects. Not a bad idea to do some preemptive spraying with a mild insecticide. Don't forget to include areas around the benches. With tropical trees in a green house, the soil temps could be about 50 degrees. This means the roots are probably still growing. This is a good time apply a light fertilizer with a 0-10-10 or use bone meal. This practice will provide a boost to the plant when it becomes time to repot.